

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A rack equipment management system comprising:
rack equipment for participating in information processing activities;
a management component for managing power consumption and thermal load
of said rack equipment; and
a communication link for communicatively coupling said rack equipment and
10 said management component, wherein said communication link communicates
information between said management component and said rack equipment.
2. A rack equipment management system of claim 1 wherein said management
component controls said power consumption and said thermal load of said rack
15 equipment within a power consumption and heat dissipation budget.
3. A rack equipment management system of claim 1 further comprising an
operator interface for presenting disparate information in a unified manner and
facilitating adjustments in said rack equipment operating settings and performance
20 levels.
4. A rack equipment management system of claim 1 wherein said management
component analyzes information communicated on said communications bus and
determines applicability of management plan policies to said information.

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5. A rack equipment management system of claim 1 wherein said management processing component directs manipulation of said power consumption and said thermal load of said rack equipment in accordance with management plan policies.

5 6. A rack equipment management system of claim 1 wherein said management component is included in an intelligent power distribution unit, wherein said intelligent power distribution unit aggregates multiple power line cords from said rack equipment into a smaller number of power line cords at a rack level.

10 7. A rack equipment management system of claim 1 wherein said communication link communicates information compliant with a protocol permitting automatic configuration of power consumption and heat dissipation for said rack equipment.

8. A rack equipment management method comprising:
15 receiving information related to a rack equipment management plan;
analyzing policies of said rack equipment management plan associated with rack equipment operation; and
directing manipulation of power consumption and thermal load associated with said rack equipment.

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9. A rack equipment management method of claim 8 wherein said rack equipment is associated with information processing.

10. A rack equipment management method of claim 8 wherein directing includes
25 issuing a command to manipulate operation of equipment associated with supporting said rack equipment operations.

11. A rack equipment management method of claim 8 wherein said manipulation includes instructions to adjust a frequency and a voltage of said rack equipment.

5 12. A rack equipment management rack equipment management method of claim 8 wherein said manipulation includes turning on and off said rack equipment.

13. A rack equipment management method of claim 8 automatically adjusting said rack management plan interactively.

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14. A computer usable storage medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for causing a computer system to implement rack equipment management instructions comprising:

15 an event monitoring module for monitoring the occurrence of triggering events;

a policy review engine module for investigating management plan objectives and policies associated with said triggering event; and

a command generation module for generating performance adjustment commands corresponding to said management plan objectives.

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15. A computer usable storage medium of claim 14 storing rack equipment instructions further comprising a telemetry collection module for monitoring characteristics and activity of equipment associated with said management plan objectives.

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16. A computer usable storage medium of claim 16 storing rack equipment instructions wherein said telemetry collection module directs retrieval of information for confirming performance adjustment commands are complied with.

5 17. A computer usable storage medium of claim 14 storing rack equipment management instructions further comprising an event spawning module for generating events.

10 18. A computer usable storage medium of claim 14 storing rack equipment management instructions wherein said equipment associated with said processing includes support equipment.

15 19. A computer usable storage medium of claim 14 storing rack equipment management instructions wherein said command generation module generates a command to alter power consumption and thermal load of said rack equipment.

20. A computer usable storage medium of claim 14 storing rack equipment management instructions further comprising a management interface module for providing a user interface.